

UNM Student Publications Board Meeting
Friday, February 3, 2012
Marron Hall, Rm. 131

Present: Leslie Donovan (Chair), V.B. Price, Robert Trapp, John Luna, Sunny Liu, Miguel Gandert, and Bridget Chavez.

Ex-Officio: Jim Fisher, Chris Quintana, Sarah Parro, Shari Taylor

Also Present: Carolyn Souther

Absent: SPJ representative, Lissa Knudsen

Leslie Donovan called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Donovan asked for a review of the November 11, 2011 meeting minutes. V.B. Price made a motion to accept the minutes with one correction. Sunny Liu seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Fisher reported on the third annual *Daily Lobo* journalism boot camp held January 21-22 in the University Honors Department. Fisher said that *Daily Lobo* writing coach, Kate Nash organized the event. He said 62 students and 33 presenters attended. Fisher said that if the event next year has any more participants they would have to find a larger venue. Miguel Gandert offered the UNM facility at Mesa del Sol for next year's event. He said the facility has a big theatre and free parking. Fisher said he e-mailed President Schmidly a press release after the boot camp ended. He said he received a nice response form the president. Chris Quintana said he has noticed an improvement in copy editing and sports reporting since the event. Fisher said attendees included students from Sandia Prep and Santa Fe High School, CNM journalism students and many from the *Daily Lobo* newspaper staff and UNM Communication & Journalism.

Donovan asked Shari Taylor to report on *Conceptions Southwest*. Taylor said she has received 138 submissions. She said the *CSW* Web site is pretty much done. Taylor said she has a total of 9 staff members but now is looking for copy editors and designers. Quintana suggested Sarah Lynas as a designer. Taylor said that advertisements are running in the *Daily Lobo* and she and other staff are visiting classes as well. She said that *CSW* is also active on Facebook. She said her staff is now in discussions regarding what to publish. She said there is the possibility of an upcoming UNM publications fair with all publications including *CSW*, *BSE*, *Scribendi* and *Blue Mesa Review*.

Donovan asked Sarah Parro to report on *Best Student Essays*. Parro said she had been focusing on advertising for the next issue. She said she has been sending out flyers, talking to faculty and delivering hard copy letters. She said she has received 2 submissions so far for the spring issue. She said that faculty nomination forms are now in an electronic format. Parro said she has hired three new copy editors and will be possibly hiring a fourth. She said the magazine should be out by the fourth week of April. She said the reception will be the first week of May. The Board asked Parro about current staff members who might be good candidates for next year's editor. She responded that four current staff members might be interested. Board members commented that last semester's reception was wonderful and that the fall issue of *BSE* looked great.

Donovan asked Chris Quintana for a report on the *Daily Lobo*. Quintana said they lost their copy chief at the end of the semester but the position had been filled immediately. He said that a few reporters had graduated in December. He said Luke Holman has taken over as news editor. Quintana said there have been some adjustments and there is currently not as much home-grown content as he would prefer. He

said the photo desk doing well with Dylan Smith as photo editor and Junfu Han as assistant. He said he is soliciting columns from the GPSA and ASUNM presidents. He said the *Daily Lobo* is saving money by sending production design assistants home when they are done designing instead of waiting for copy edits to be complete. He said they are working on a few big stories this semester including coverage of the Student Fee Review Board, the Education Retirement Board and south campus development. Donovan asked Quintana about prospects for the next *Daily Lobo* editor. He said there are a few possibilities, but noted that quite a few staff members are graduating at the end of this semester or next fall. Donovan thanked Quintana for the column regarding all of the student magazines on campus.

Donovan asked Fisher to report on the *Daily Lobo* financials. Fisher said the financial statement covered through December. He said there had been quite an improvement in revenue versus expenses from September. He added that January revenue was very good compared to past years. He said he expected the *Daily Lobo* probably to be in the red by end of year, but not as badly as previously expected. He said he is working to hold expenses down.

The Board discussed the student representative for the Society for Professional Journalists vacancy on the Board. Gandert said the Communication & Journalism chair stated that she would help get the various student groups together to determine a Board representative. He said they want to institutionalize the process so it will be consistent year after year. Donovan said she hoped this could happen before the Board's next meeting to select the *Daily Lobo* editor. Gandert said he thought that could happen and that he would follow up on this before the next meeting.

Donovan asked Gandert for references to UNM's Higher Learning Commission accreditation being tied to the existence and independence of the *Daily Lobo*. Gandert said when he had previously spoken to the people who handle the UNM accreditation, they had stated that even though in the 1990s specific criteria was removed, the expectation is still there that a public university of UNM's size will have a truly independent student newspaper that fulfills its claims to contribute to educational experience of the students. He said that if something happened to the *Daily Lobo* or the Publications Board that would change that independence, it would have to be brought to the HLC's accreditation committee's attention. Donovan asked Gandert to ask those involved with accreditation to write a statement to that effect that can be put on the Student Publications Web site.

Donovan then asked Fisher to address the selection timeline for the editors of the publications. Fisher handed out schedules and copies of application materials for all three editor positions. The Board decided that the *Daily Lobo* editor selection will take place on Friday, April 13 and the *CSW* and *BSE* editor selections will take place on Friday, April 27.

Donovan asked for new business. Fisher and Carolyn Souther discussed an issue that had been brought to their attention by Doug Nelson, manager for UNM Unrestricted Accounting, about the university wanting to take over all billing and collections of the *Daily Lobo*. Souther said that Nelson stated that Student Publications needs to comply with UNM Policy 7200. Souther said she is going to schedule a meeting with Nelson to discuss the issue. She said there are many concerns about this policy including processing of payments, tear sheets, statements, programming issues to deal with the *Daily Lobo* accounting and billing software and Banner. Fisher said we might need the Board's support to get an exemption from this policy.

Donovan said the next meeting is scheduled for April 13.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.